

DECEPTION: AT THE ROOT OF SATAN'S POWER

INTRODUCTION

We shall be considering a topic that is sparingly discussed or treated in Christian circles, and therefore not given the required attention and exposition that it deserves, in order to bring mankind out from the subtlety by which it had ensnared them unto destruction at the end. It is glossed over and given superficial references at best, but actually it is of the broad way that leadeth to destruction for those that are found in it till the end. This topic has to do with "Deception" of which all that are born of woman into this world are made partakers of compulsorily.

Unfortunately, the Ministers of the People (MOPs) of the Churches as business organization (CAO) themselves being deceived, go about recruiting men into their own form of deception, which is vain religion as it were. The MOPs transform men from one form of deception to another, from secular to religious deception. This they accomplish through their dogmas and doctrines that are from beneath and of falsehood.

Those that do not hear the Master Jesus Christ in his doctrines in order to do accordingly are held in the bound of deceptions even as their CAO religious leaders are in their worldly wisdom and ways. This is devilish and not of Christ as it was. But we have set our hearts to hear Christ and therefore are able to write about this root matter called Deception, which is cancerous as it were.

WHAT IS DECEPTION AND IT ROOTS?

What does the word "deception" mean? According to the English dictionary it is defined as "an instance of actions and/or schemes fabricated to mislead and/or delude someone into errantly believing a lie".

Therefore, deception is accomplished by the speaking and/or doing of a lie. A lie is as a result of the rejection of the established truth of God, in order to hold unto that which is contrary and presenting it instead as the truth. A lie is of falsehood, a twisting or corruption of the truth. A lie cannot be possible without the truth existing already, even as a counterfeit cannot exist

without the existence of the original. This we see with Lucifer, who deviated from the divine path that is right and true as ordained by God for His holy angels, unto trying to chart his own course that is of error. Lucifer left his divine station and sought for that which was not appointed unto him. He was therefore found in iniquity as a result of walking in this error. Sin deceived Lucifer into thinking that he can be like God by his own self will and run a parallel government. And his heart was lifted up in pride and deceit whereby he was defiled. With sin cometh a lying spirit that is deceptive which influences men to walk contrary to God's will. **Mk 7:20-23; Gen 4:5-10; I Kings 22:20-23**

Isa 14: 12 How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations! **Vr.13** For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: **Vr.14** I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High. **Vr.15** Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit.

Ezek 28:1-19 (Vr.5 By thy great wisdom and by thy traffick hast thou increased thy riches, and thine heart is lifted up because of thy riches: **Vr.6** Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; Because thou hast set thine heart as the heart of God; **Vr.7** Behold, therefore I will bring strangers upon thee, the terrible of the nations: and they shall draw their swords against the beauty of thy wisdom, and they shall defile thy brightness. **Vr.12** Son of man, take up a lamentation upon the king of Tyrus, and say unto him, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Thou sealest up the sum, full of wisdom, and perfect in beauty. **Vr.15** Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee. **Vr.16** By the multitude of thy merchandise they have filled the midst of thee with violence, and thou hast sinned: therefore I will cast thee as profane out of the mountain of God: and I will destroy thee, O covering cherub, from the midst of the stones of fire. **Vr.17** Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty, thou hast corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness: I will cast thee to the ground, I will lay thee before kings, that they may behold thee. **Vr.18** Thou hast defiled thy sanctuaries by the multitude of thine iniquities, by the iniquity of thy traffick; therefore will I bring forth a fire from the midst of thee, it shall devour thee, and I will bring thee to ashes upon the earth in the sight of all them that behold thee.

By reason of sin, the Devil commenced a walk in falsehood, belief of a lie, deception, darkness, and error. God condemned Lucifer at his fall to a life of delusion, self deceit, beguilement, lies and error. The spirit of truth was taken from Lucifer as the anointed cherub, and the spirit of error came upon Satan, the great dragon, that old serpent. Lucifer as a spiritual being was condemned to carnality as Satan, as an everlasting punishment by God. **Rom 8:6-7; I Sam 16:13-15**

Jn 8: 44 Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.

Mtt 16: 23 But he turned, and said unto Peter, Get thee behind me, Satan: thou art an offence unto me: for thou savourest not the things that be of God, but those that be of men.

Isa 44: 20 He feedeth on ashes: a deceived heart hath turned him aside, that he cannot deliver his soul, nor say, Is there not a lie in my right hand?

Gen 3: 14 And the LORD God said unto the serpent, Because thou hast done this [*work of deception*], thou art cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life:

Sin is a deceiver and is at the root of deception. And Satan as a chief captive of sin is deceived at heart therein and therefore goes about deceiving others unfailingly. Those that are sold to sin are sold to deception and it is a heart problem. **Jn 8:34-35; Rom 7:14; 2 Pet 2:13-15; I Pet 5:8; Job 1:7-8; 2 Jn 1:7; 2 Cor 11:13-15**

I Jn 3:4 Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law. **Vr.7** Little children, let no man deceive you: he that doeth righteousness is righteous, even as he is righteous. **Vr.8** He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning.

Rom 7:10 And the commandment, which was ordained to life, I found to be unto death. **Vr.11** For sin, taking occasion by the commandment, deceived me, and by it slew me.

2 Tim 3: 13 But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived.

The angels that fell with Satan must have been his very initial objects of the practice of his deceptive works in heaven, way before Adam and Eve came into the scene on earth. They also fell for the deception of Satan in the Garden of Eden. **Mtt 25:41; Jude 1:6**

Rev 12:3-9 (Vr.3 And there appeared another wonder in heaven; and behold a great red dragon, having seven heads and ten horns, and seven crowns upon his heads. **Vr.4** And his tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth: and the dragon stood before the woman which was ready to be delivered, for to devour her child as soon as it was born. **Vr.7** And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and

the dragon fought and his angels, **Vr.8** And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven. **Vr.9** And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

Gen 3: 1 Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden? **Vr.13** And the LORD God said unto the woman, What is this that thou hast done? And the woman said, The serpent beguiled me, and I did eat.

SATAN LIVES IN SELF-DECEIT

Every created being found in sin is deceived and liveth in a state of self deceit thereafter. Satan and his fallen angels were the first of God's creations to find themselves in such captivity and bondage. Till date Satan thinketh that he yet standeth even in his fallen state, deceiving himself that he shall still be able to accomplish that for which he fell and was cast out. **I Cor 10:12; Rev 20:7-10; 2 Thess 2:3-4**

Self deception is tied or linked also to pride, arrogance, lusting, covetousness, rebellion, lies, haughtiness, etc. Deception works on the ignorant mind devoid of understanding of the spiritual truths of God, and therefore is of wickedness. The deceived are of corrupt minds, given to evil imaginations and having their hearts hardened by the deceitfulness of sin. Deceived men live superstitiously with a conscience of an idol, which causeth them not to accept and acknowledge the truth of God in all their ways. **I Cor 8:4-7**

Gen 6: 5 And GOD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.

2 Cor 11: 3 But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.

Hebr 3:12 Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God. **Vr.13** But exhort one another daily, while it is called To day; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.

Tit 1:14-16 (Vr.15 Unto the pure all things are pure: but unto them that are defiled and unbelieving is nothing pure; but even their mind and conscience is defiled. **Vr.16** They profess that they know God; but in works they deny him, being abominable, and disobedient, and unto every good work reprobate.

Satan as a disobedient and rebellious fallen angel of God wallows in self deceit, believing himself to be something which he is not, exalting himself above that which he is. All that behave in similar way amongst men are deceived and walk in deception as it were. **Lk 14:11**

Gal 6: 3 For if a man think himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceiveth himself [*and this is the state of Satan*]

Ezek 28:1-10 (Vr. 2) Son of man, say unto the prince of Tyrus, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Because thine heart is lifted up, and thou hast said, I am a God, I sit in the seat of God, in the midst of the seas; yet thou art a man, and not God, though thou set thine heart as the heart of God:

2 Thess 2: 3 Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; **Vr.4** Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God [*in his self deceit*].

Mtt 23: 12 And whosoever shall exalt himself shall be abased;

Satan being in self deceit is condemned to a life of deception in sin and he is sold to deceiving others through lies. Without a lie there can be no deception, and those that are deceived are in darkness being made blind therein.

All those that are influenced and manipulated by Satan also live in self deceit. Self deceit is sustained in one's heart and mind by the ministrations of lying spirits within. Every man is led by one spirit or the other that ministers and influences his choices and actions. **Eph 2:2-3; Rom 8:14; I Cor 2:11-13; Ezek 13:2-3**

Self deceit is a hallmark manifestation of one that is living in a state of deception. Those that are of the truth do not go about deceiving themselves when confronted with the truth glaringly, rather it is those that are sold to a lie that do. **Gal 3:1**

BY SUBTILTY DECEPTION IS ACCOMPLISHED

Lucifer at his beginning was endowed with godly wisdom which he exercised in the light, but by iniquity that wisdom became corrupted and devilish. Therefore, it is by subtlety that Satan operates in corrupted wisdom meant to deceive those that are from beneath.

Ezek 28: 12 Son of man, take up a lamentation upon the king of Tyrus, and say unto him, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Thou sealest up the sum, full of wisdom, and perfect in beauty. **Vr.15** Thou

wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee. **Vr.17** Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty, thou hast corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness: I will cast thee to the ground, **Vr.18** Thou hast defiled thy sanctuaries by the multitude of thine iniquities, by the iniquity of thy traffick;

Jam 3: 14 But if ye have bitter envying and strife in your hearts, glory not, and lie not against the truth. **Vr.15** This wisdom descendeth not from above, but is earthly, sensual, devilish. **Vr.16** For where envying and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work.

What does it mean to be subtle? – not very noticeable or obvious; behaving in a clever way and using methods in order to achieve a targeted aim.

Subtlety is generally the workings of wisdom that is from beneath which is devilish in nature where the Wicked one is concerned. By it all manner of unrighteousness is accomplished.

Gen 3: 1 Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made.

Acts 13: 10 And said, O full of all subtilty and all mischief, thou child of the devil, thou enemy of all righteousness, wilt thou not cease to pervert the right ways of the Lord?

It is by subtly twisting the truth, turning or changing the truth into a lie that deception can be accomplished where the commandment of God is concerned. How? by adding to the truth that which was never there before, in order to garnish it into a lie. Or by subtracting from the truth and adding a lie in-between, like the sandwich effect – truth + lie + truth = a lie. **Eccl 3:14; Rom 1:25**

Prov 30: 5 Every word of God is pure: he is a shield unto them that put their trust in him. **Vr.6** Add thou not unto his words, lest he reprove thee, and thou be found a liar.

Deu 4:1-2 (Vr.2) Ye shall not add unto the word which I command you, neither shall ye diminish ought from it, that ye may keep the commandments of the LORD your God which I command you.

Colo 2:6-8 (Vr.8) Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.

Rev 22:18 For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: **Vr.19** And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.

The intent of a lie is to deceive, to mislead, and to give a false or wrong impression of the truth. By it Satan makes God out to be a liar subtly. This therefore brings one into doubt, unbelief and rejection of the truth of God even without knowing it most of the time. Satan by false and deceitful witnessing works wickedness and unrighteousness upon the earth, thereby accomplishing his ministry in the world. **Prov 14:25; Jn 8:44; Jn 10:10; I Cor 15:15; Tit 1:2**

Beguilement, sorcery, enchantment, enticement and bewitchment are all deceptive means or tools by which Satan accomplishes his subtle evil work against mankind. This is wickedness and evil before God as it were.

THE FALL OF MAN IN THE GARDEN OF EDEN

Satan in his devilish wisdom tempted Adam in his trial in the Garden of Eden unto his fall through the instrumentation of the Woman. The lust for woman and her eventually manifestation became a stumbling block to Adam which led to his partaking in eating of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil contrary to God's commandment.

It was by the tools of deception called beguilement and enticement that the serpent got the Woman to transgress God's commandment and by another tool of deception called enchantment that the Woman got Adam to partake of her sin thereafter.

Gen 3: 11 And he said, Who told thee that thou wast naked? Hast thou eaten of the tree, whereof I commanded thee that thou shouldest not eat? **Vr.12** And the man said, The woman whom thou gavest to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I did eat. **Vr.13** And the LORD God said unto the woman, What is this that thou hast done? And the woman said, The serpent beguiled me, and I did eat.

How was the serpent able to accomplish this feat? He bewitched the Woman with lying, enticing words that were convincing due to his subtlety. He sold a lie to her having caught her in a lie from the start and she bought it, hook, line and sinker.

2 Cor 11: 3 But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.

By reason of satanic enticement, the forbidden fruit took on a more appealing look than Eve had ever seen it before. And she was irresistible drawn to the forbidden fruit as one to be desired.

Gen 3: 5 For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil. **Vr.6** And when the woman saw that the tree was

good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat,

Jam 1: 14 But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. **Vr.15** Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.

How did the Woman lie in her discuss with the serpent? In her answer to the serpent, she added to the word of God and was therefore found to be a liar like the serpent. She spoke the same native language as him and the bond was established between them in deceit.

Gen 3: 1 Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden? **Vr.2** And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: **Vr.3** But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die.

What was it that God said exactly in His command to Adam?

Gen 2:15-17 (Vr.16 And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: **Vr.17** But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.

The Woman introduced “touching” of the fruit of the tree as a means of death apart from eating only as commanded by God. Is it possible to touch the fruit and not eat of it? Do you die from touching or from eating? Those that are easily deceived would say it does not matter either way, but it does. Why? because God was specific in His instructions and was not ambiguous. The Woman spoke presumptuously as it were and the serpent lashed on it in order to close the deal.

Gen 3: 4 And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: **Vr.5** For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil. **Vr.6** And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof,

The Woman touched and took of the fruit and she did not die as she had said in her presumption, validating what the serpent told her that she would not die. Subsequently, she was emboldened to go further to eat of the fruit which was the act that was contrary to God’s actual commandment and death followed suit. It is in the eating of the fruit and not in the mere touching that death was meant to occur, unlike what the Woman told the serpent.

Presumption opens up the way for deception, which results in committing of presumptuous sins. **Ps 19:13; 2 Pet 2:10**

Gen 3: 6 And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat. **Vr.7** And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons.

The instantaneous death that befell Adam and Eve as they ate of the forbidden fruit was that of being made carnally minded like the serpent. They were able to see themselves carnally as being naked, uncovered and no longer spiritually as being covered by the glory of God – the glory of God over them had departed- Ichabod. Beguilement of the serpent on Eve brought about the corruption of her mind from that of spirituality to carnality. **I Sam 4:21-22; Rom 3:23; Gen 2:25; 2 Cor 11:3**

Rom 8: 6 For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. **Vr.7** Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.

Gen 3:17-19 (Vr.17) And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life;

Physical death was to follow in the world to which the Man was cast out into as a human being from thence. He was to live a life in carnality, and if not converted in Christ while in the world was to subsequently suffer the second death in the world to come.

Gen 3: 19 In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return.

Adam and Eve having been deceived acted like the serpent in self deceit. How? they tried to hide from the presence of the Lord amongst the trees and by deceptively covering themselves up with fig leaves as it were. Those that are deceived are given to seeking to deceive others around them too in their feigned wisdom. **Gen 3:7-8; Job 31:33**

ADAM WAS CAST OUT INTO A WORLD OF DECEPTION

The Woman was beguiled by the serpent and Adam partook of that beguilement having been enchanted and enticed by Eve unto his fall, a fall into sin and death. Since the Garden of Eden was a realm of righteousness, obedience and of the glory of God, Man needed to be driven out from there having been corrupted. Adam and Eve were cast out of there into a world of sin and death founded on the earth.

So the world of the fallen man is a world of deception and iniquity. For all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God having fallen into deceit and falsehood by the initial workings of Satan. Everyone born of flesh into this world is bound captive in the web of deception therein, but they knoweth it not. It is only in the light of the truth that one can know and seek to be liberated. **Rom 5:12,14; Rom 3:23; Jn 1:9,14; Jn 12:39-41,46; Rom 8:20-21; Hebr 9:27**

Isa 60: 1 Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the LORD is risen upon thee. **Vr.2** For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the LORD shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee.

Rev 12: 9 And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

The fallen man is carnally minded, having his eyes and ears opened unto deceit, iniquity, falsehood, illusions and fallacies, but closed/blinded to the truth and righteousness that is of God. By deception a man is made to trespass God's commandment and is kept in transgression/darkness as long as the deception subsists, holds or persists. It is only by the knowledge of the truth in Christ Jesus can one be set free and brought into the light. The heart of the fallen man is of deceit. **Jn 8:32; Gen 3:6-7**

I Tim 2: 14 And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression.

2 Cor 4:2-4 (Vr.4) In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

Jer 17: 9 The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?

Every one born of a woman into this world is born into a world of wickedness and darkness sustained by a system steeped in satanic deception as it were. Such is held captive therein by the system of this present evil world and therefore has need for deliverance. And this deliverance is only possible through Christ Jesus – the way, the truth and the life. Such

compulsorily needs to be born again by the word of truth and the Spirit of truth. You need to be called out of the world into the kingdom of God. **Job 25:4; Isa 64:6; Jn 17:6,14-17; Jam 1:18; 2 Cor 4:4; Jn 3:3-7**

Rom 5:12 Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:

Ps 51:5 Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me.

Job 15:14 What is man, that he should be clean? and he which is born of a woman, that he should be righteous?

I Jn 5:19 And we know that we are of God, and the whole world lieth in wickedness.

Gal 1:4 Who gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will of God and our Father:

Colo 1:12-14 (Vr.13 Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness [*of deceptions*], and hath translated us into the kingdom of [*truth of*] his dear Son:

Therefore, having been cast into a pretentious world, Eve gave birth to a child of the wicked one, called Cain, in her very first conception. He later on deceived his brother after him Abel, unto slaying him in the field. And he thought he could deceive God also, by covering the blood of Abel out of sight in the fields. And so it has always been in the world of sin and death, men living in deceit, deceiving and being deceived. **Mtt 10:26; Prov 28:13; 2 Tim 3:13**

Gen 4:1-12 (Vr.1 And Adam knew Eve his wife; and she conceived, and bare Cain, and said, I have gotten a man from the LORD. **Vr.2** And she again bare his brother Abel. **Vr.8** And Cain talked with Abel his brother: and it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother, and slew him. **Vr.9** And the LORD said unto Cain, Where is Abel thy brother? And he said, I know not: Am I my brother' keeper? **Vr.10** And he said, What hast thou done? the voice of thy brother' blood crieth unto me from the ground.

I Jn 3:12 Not as Cain, who was of that wicked one, and slew his brother. And wherefore slew he him? Because his own works were evil, and his brother's righteous.

By the art of deception, the deceived are always in the business of trying to hide things and cover their sins on the earth, from both God and their fellow men – what a delusion; for they do not know truly who God is.

I Cor 4: 5 Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord come, who both will bring to light the hidden things of darkness, and will make manifest the counsels of the hearts: and then shall every man have praise of God.

Hebr 4:12 For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. **Vr.13** Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do.

Gal 6: 7 Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.

THE WORK OF SATAN ON EARTH IS TO DECEIVE

From the very beginning of Satan's interaction with Adam and the Woman in the garden it was deception that he wrought against them through the ministration of lies, and that was how he was able to devour Eve and slew Adam in the process. The Devil goes about this work by every means possible as the tempter cum deceiver, even as permitted him by God, and so do his cohorts on earth. **Mtt 4:1-3; I Thess 3:5; Prov 11:18**

2 Cor 11:3 But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.

Deu 11:16 Take heed to yourselves, that your heart be not deceived, and ye turn aside, and serve other gods, and worship them;

2 Thess 2:3 Let no man deceive you by any means: **Vr.8** And then shall that Wicked be revealed, **Vr.9** Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan [*which is of deception*] with all power and signs and lying wonders, **Vr.10** And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish;

Eph 6: 11 Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles [*tricks/deceptions*] of the devil.

The world went into deception from the time that Man was cast into it as punishment by God for transgressing His commandment via the lies that Satan sold to Eve and Adam which they bought into. So the power of Satan lieth in deception accomplished through lies, satanic manipulations, and influences unto bondage in sin thereafter that is how he devours men.

Jn 8:44 Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.

Rev 12: 9 And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world [*from the very beginning till date*]: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

2 Jn 1: 7 For many deceivers are entered into the world, who confess not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist.

1 Jn 5:19 And we know that we are of God, and the whole world lieth in wickedness [*and darkness by reason of deception*].

By deception a man is kept in ignorance committing wickedness without even realizing his captivity therein. One that is truly deceived does not know, but rather sees others as being in deception instead. He would seek to deliver them while it is he that needs deliverance and that is the state of the CAO. **Rom 2:17-23; 2 Cor 11:13-15**

2 Pet 2:17-22 (Vr.18) For when they speak great swelling words of vanity, they allure through the lusts of the flesh, through much wantonness, those that were clean escaped from them who live in error. **Vr.19** While they promise them liberty, they themselves are the servants of corruption: for of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he brought in bondage.

As we had opined, the major work of Satan is to deceive, which he accomplishes through all manner of lying means. So he roameth to and fro the whole earth, wherein he was cast out to, performing and sustaining the web of deception therein by which he devours men. **Job 1:7-8; Job 2:1-6**

1 Pet 5: 8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour [*and he does so through deceit*]:

Jn 10:10 The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy [*he accomplishes these through deception*]:

Eph 4: 14 That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;

The world shall know some respite from satanic works of deception only during the millennial reign of Christ on earth, when Satan shall be bound and cast into the bottomless pit for a thousand years.

Rev 20:1-3 (Vr.2) And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years, **Vr.3** And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up,

and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season [*to do what again?*].

As soon as Satan is released from being bound in the bottomless he shall immediately commences his primary work on earth again, which is to deceive in order to get captives under his hold again.

Rev 20:7 And when the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison [*to do what again?*], **Vr.8** And shall go out [immediately] to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle [*It is the deceived that are used by Satan*]: **Vr.10** And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.

The power of Satan over the whole of fallen mankind on earth is rooted in deception, which he exercised from the beginning over Adam and Eve and continues to do so over children of the world till date. The Devil came against the last Adam in the wilderness temptation with his deceptive tendencies but failed. Yet at the end it was by deceit that the son of perdition, the cohort of Satan betrayed the Son of God, Jesus the Christ unto his being crucified on the cross. **Prov 27:6; Lk 22:3-6,47-48; Jn 17:12**

VARIOUS WILES BY WHICH DECEPTION IS CARRIED OUT

Deception is accomplished through several means, but in all the foundation of it is based on a lie as we have seen. In the absence of the knowledge of the truth deception is inevitable. We can consider some of the tools employed in deception, for these are of the wiles of the Devil as it were. **Eph 6:11; Jn 8:44**

BEGUILEMENT

To beguile is to deceive or delude using guile; to charm, delight or captivate.

2 Cor 11:3 But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve [*How?*] through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.

Gen 3: 13 And the LORD God said unto the woman, What is this that thou hast done? And the woman said, The serpent beguiled me, and I did eat.

Num 25:15-18 (Vr.18) For they vex you with their wives, wherewith they have beguiled you in the matter of Peor, and in the matter of Cozbi, the daughter of a prince of Midian, their sister, which was slain in the day of the plague for Peor' sake.

Josh 9:1-27 (Vr.4) They did work wilily, and went and made as if they had been ambassadors, and took old sacks upon their asses, and wine bottles, old, and rent, and bound up; **Vr.14** And the men took of their victuals, and asked not counsel at the mouth of the LORD. **Vr.22** And Joshua called for them, and he spake unto them, saying, Wherefore have ye beguiled us, saying, We are very far from you; when ye dwell among us?

Colo 2:1-8 (Vr.4) And this I say, lest any man should beguile you with enticing words. **Vr.8** Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ. **Vr.18** Let no man beguile you of your reward in a voluntary humility and worshipping of angels, intruding into those things which he hath not seen, vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind,

Beguilement is initiated by speaking guile. A man in whom guile is found in his spirit will always beguile as it were. **Exo 21:14; Ps 34:13; Ps 55:11; Jn 1:47; Rev 14:5; I Pet 2:1,22; I Pet 3:10**

Ps 32:2 Blessed is the man unto whom the LORD imputeth not iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no guile.

2 Cor 12:15-20 (Vr.16) But be it so, I did not burden you: nevertheless, being crafty, I caught you with guile.

ENCHANTMENT, ENTICEMENT AND BEWITCHMENT

To enchant is to attract and delight, to charm; to cast a spell over. **Jer 27:9**

To entice is to lure; to attract by arousing desire or hope. **Jer 20:10; Prov 16:29; Judg 16:5**

To bewitch is to astonish or amaze; to cast a spell on someone.

Exo 7:1-23 (Vr.11) Then Pharaoh also called the wise men and the sorcerers: now the magicians of Egypt, they also did in like manner with their enchantments. **Vr.22** And the magicians of Egypt did so with their enchantments: and Pharaoh' heart was hardened, neither did he hearken unto them; as the LORD had said.

Lev 19: 26 Ye shall not eat any thing with the blood: neither shall ye use enchantment, nor observe times.

Deu 18:9-20 (Vr.10) There shall not be found among you any one that maketh his son or his daughter to pass through the fire, or that useth divination, or an observer of times, or an

enchanter, or a witch, **Vr.11** Or a charmer, or a consulter with familiar spirits, or a wizard, or a necromancer.

Jam 1: 14 But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. **Vr.15** Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.

2 Chron 18:18-22 (Vr.20 Then there came out a spirit, and stood before the LORD, and said, I will entice him. And the LORD said unto him, Wherewith? **Vr.21** And he said, I will go out, and be a lying spirit in the mouth of all his prophets. And the LORD said, Thou shalt entice him, and thou shalt also prevail: go out, and do even so.

Gal 3:1-5 (Vr.1 O foolish Galatians, who hath bewitched you, that ye should not obey the truth, before whose eyes Jesus Christ hath been evidently set forth, crucified among you?

Acts 8:9-12 (Vr.9 But there was a certain man, called Simon, which beforetime in the same city used sorcery, and bewitched the people of Samaria, giving out that himself was some great one: **Vr.10** To whom they all gave heed, from the least to the greatest, saying, This man is the great power of God. **Vr.11** And to him they had regard, because that of long time he had bewitched them with sorceries.

Those that have not the truth in them are easily bewitched with lies unto walking in errors.

SEDUCTION

To seduce – to beguile or lure someone away from accepted principles; to lead astray; to entice or induce someone to engage in sexual relationship. **2 Tim 3:13; I Jn 2:26**

2 Kings 21:8-11 (Vr.9 But they hearkened not: and Manasseh seduced them to do more evil than did the nations whom the LORD destroyed before the children of Israel.

Isa 19:12-15 (Vr.13 The princes of Zoan are become fools, the princes of Noph are deceived; they have also seduced Egypt, even they that are the stay of the tribes thereof.

Ezek 13:1-10 (Vr.2 Son of man, prophesy against the prophets of Israel that prophesy, and say thou unto them that prophesy out of their own hearts, Hear ye the word of the LORD; **Vr.3** Thus saith the Lord GOD; Woe unto the foolish prophets, that follow their own spirit, and have seen nothing! **Vr.6** They have seen vanity and lying divination, saying, The LORD saith: and the LORD hath not sent them: and they have made others to hope that they would confirm the word. **Vr.7** Have ye not seen a vain vision, and have ye not spoken a lying divination, whereas ye say, The LORD saith it; albeit I have not spoken? **Vr.10** Because, even because they have seduced my people, saying, Peace; and there was no peace;

Mk 13:20-23 (Vr.22) For false Christs and false prophets shall rise, and shall shew signs and wonders, to seduce, if it were possible, even the elect.

Rev 2:20-24 (Vr.20) Notwithstanding I have a few things against thee, because thou sufferest that woman Jezebel, which calleth herself a prophetess, to teach and to seduce my servants to commit fornication, and to eat things sacrificed unto idols.

SORCERY, WITCHCRAFT AND MAGIC

Sorcery has to do with magical power; the use of witchcraft or magic arts

Witchcraft – the practice of witches; magic, sorcery, or the use of supernatural powers to influence or predict events.

Magic, amongst other meaning, is an illusion performed to give the appearance of the supernatural; conjure up

Jer 27: 9 Therefore hearken not ye to your prophets, nor to your diviners, nor to your dreamers, nor to your enchanters, nor to your sorcerers, which speak unto you, saying, Ye shall not serve the king of Babylon: **Vr.10** For they prophesy a lie unto you, to remove you far from your land; and that I should drive you out, and ye should perish.

Dan 2:1-12 (Vr.2) Then the king commanded to call the magicians, and the astrologers, and the sorcerers, and the Chaldeans, for to shew the king his dreams. So they came and stood before the king. **Vr.9** But if ye will not make known unto me the dream, there is but one decree for you: for ye have prepared lying and corrupt words to speak before me, till the time be changed: therefore tell me the dream, and I shall know that ye can shew me the interpretation thereof.

2 Chron 33:6 And he caused his children to pass through the fire in the valley of the son of Hinnom: also he observed times, and used enchantments, and used witchcraft, and dealt with a familiar spirit, and with wizards: he wrought much evil in the sight of the LORD, to provoke him to anger.

Micah 5: 12 And I will cut off witchcrafts out of thine hand; and thou shalt have no more soothsayers:

Nahum 3: 4 Because of the multitude of the whoredoms of the wellfavoured harlot, the mistress of witchcrafts, that selleth nations through her whoredoms, and families through her witchcrafts.

Acts 13:4-12 (Vr.6) And when they had gone through the isle unto Paphos, they found a certain sorcerer, a false prophet, a Jew, whose name was Bar-jesus: **Vr.7** Which was with the deputy of the country, Sergius Paulus, a prudent man; who called for Barnabas and Saul, and desired to

hear the word of God. **Vr.8** But Elymas the sorcerer (for so is his name by interpretation) withstood them, seeking to turn away the deputy from the faith. **Vr.9** Then Saul, (who also is called Paul,) filled with the Holy Ghost, set his eyes on him, **Vr.10** And said, O full of all subtilty and all mischief, thou child of the devil, thou enemy of all righteousness, wilt thou not cease to pervert the right ways of the Lord?

Acts 19:18 And many that believed came, and confessed, and shewed their deeds. **Vr.19** Many of them also which used curious arts brought their books together, and burned them before all men:

Rev 18:23 for thy merchants were the great men of the earth; for by thy sorceries were all nations deceived.

By reason of lying wonders, signs and miracles which fall under the category of magical arts men are held in awe under deception. **Mk 13:22**

Rev 13:11-15 (Vr.13 And he doeth great wonders, so that he maketh fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men, **Vr.14** And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast; saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and did live.

2 Thess 2:7-12 (Vr.9 Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, **Vr.10** And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish;

HYPOCRISY AND INIQUITY

Hypocrisy – the claim or pretense of holding beliefs, standards, virtues that one does not actually possess; applying criticism to others that one does not apply equally to oneself. **Rom 2:1,3**

Iniquity – deviation from what is right; wickedness, gross injustice. **Mtt 5:27-28**

Isa 32: 6 For the vile person will speak villany, and his heart will work iniquity, to practise hypocrisy, and to utter error against the LORD, to make empty the soul of the hungry, and he will cause the drink of the thirsty to fail. **Vr.7** The instruments also of the churl are evil: he deviseth wicked devices to destroy the poor with lying words, even when the needy speaketh right.

Mtt 23:2 Saying, The scribes and the Pharisees sit in Moses' seat: **Vr.3** All therefore whatsoever they bid you observe, that observe and do; but do not ye after their works: for they say, and do

not. **Vr.27** Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye are like unto whited sepulchres, which indeed appear beautiful outward, but are within full of dead men's bones, and of all uncleanness. **Vr.28** Even so ye also outwardly appear righteous unto men, but within ye are full of hypocrisy and iniquity.

Lk 12: 1-3 (Vr.1 In the mean time, when there were gathered together an innumerable multitude of people, insomuch that they trode one upon another, he began to say unto his disciples first of all, Beware ye of the leaven of the Pharisees, which is hypocrisy. **Vr.2** For there is nothing covered that shall not be revealed; neither hid, that shall not be known.

I Tim 4:1-3 (Vr.1 Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; **Vr.2** Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron;

I Sam 15: 23 For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because thou hast rejected the word of the LORD, he hath also rejected thee from being king.

Job 4: 8 Even as I have seen, they that plow iniquity, and sow wickedness, reap the same.

I Cor 13: 6 Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth;

Hebr 1: 9 Thou hast loved righteousness, and hated iniquity; therefore God, even thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows.

Jam 3: 6 And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity: so is the tongue among our members, that it defileth the whole body, and setteth on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire of hell. **Vr.8** But the tongue can no man tame; it is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison.

Hypocrisy and iniquity are at the root of the operations of the CAO and on such is their doctrines reflected. Therefore, they raise adherents that are steeped in deception, deceiving and being deceived in their ways unto the end. Unfortunately, they love to have it so, being held in the bondage thereof. **Jer 5:30-31; 2 Tim 4:3-4; Mtt 21:28-32; Jn 3:19-20; Rom 1:28-32**

RICHES AND SIN

Riches – money, goods, wealth, treasure. **Ezek 28:5; Ps 49:6**

Sin – a violation or transgression of God's law; an error, a misdeed. **I Jn 3:4**

Mk 4:18 And these are they which are sown among thorns; such as hear the word, **Vr.19** And the cares of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the lusts of other things entering in, choke the word, and it becometh unfruitful.

Prov 23: 4 Labour not to be rich: cease from thine own wisdom. **Vr.5** Wilt thou set thine eyes upon that which is not? for riches certainly make themselves wings; they fly away as an eagle toward heaven.

Mk 10: 23 And Jesus looked round about, and saith unto his disciples, How hardly shall they that have riches enter into the kingdom of God! **Vr.24** And the disciples were astonished at his words. But Jesus answereth again, and saith unto them, Children, how hard is it for them that trust in riches to enter into the kingdom of God!

Lk 6: 24 But woe unto you that are rich! for ye have received your consolation.

Ps 49:16 Be not thou afraid when one is made rich, when the glory of his house is increased; **Vr.17** For when he dieth he shall carry nothing away: his glory shall not descend after him.

Hebr 3:12 Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God. **Vr.13** But exhort one another daily, while it is called To day; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.

Rom 7:7-14 (Vr.8 But sin, taking occasion by the commandment, wrought in me all manner of concupiscence. For without the law sin was dead. **Vr.9** For I was alive without the law once: but when the commandment came, sin revived, and I died. **Vr.11** For sin, taking occasion by the commandment, deceived me, and by it slew me.

Our Master Jesus Christ did not come into the world to make us rich in the material things of this world, but rather to make us rich in the spiritual knowledge of God and his righteousness. This is in a bid to prepare the saints on earth to inherit the true riches of the kingdom of God in heaven at the end. Therefore, take heed that no man deceive you with the false gospel of prosperity that focuses men on covetously acquiring the abundance that this world has to offer by mammon. **1 Jn 2:15-17; 2 Cor 8:9; Lk 12:15-21; Lk 16:11,13**

There are numerous other means of accomplishing deception which cannot be adequately covered in this literature apart from these mentioned above, but these will suffice for now.

CHRIST CAME TO DESTROY THE PRIMARY WORK OF THE DEVIL

What is the primary work of the Devil? Unfortunately, many believers are oblivious of what this is exactly, having been deceived by the CAO system to believe that it is majorly sickness, poverty, suffering, negative situations and circumstances against you, and the likes. Without knowing what it is they continue to pursue shadows, warring in ignorance still. The primary work of Satan is deceit, powered by lies by which he gets men to sin against God, and remain in sin without realizing it unto death.

The work of Christ was to destroy the foundational work of the Devil by which men are made to sin against God in the world. Because the power of Satan lieth in deception, therefore God sent Christ His Son into the world to destroy Satan's works by the power of the truth, exposing the lies and therefore bring men out of sin. **Jn 15:3; Jn 17:8,17**

As many as shall come unto the revelation of the truth, believe and walk in the truth they shall be set free from the power of darkness and the works of the devil in this world. And that is the means by which the world is to be saved and given life, even by the grace and truth that came by Christ Jesus as it were. It is by the revelation, belief and obedience of the truth that one can be delivered from the bond of deception. **Jn 1:4-12,14,17; Rom 6:14; Tit 2:11-15; Lk 1:77-79; Jn 10:10; Jn 6:33**

I Jn 3: 8 He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil [*How? by bringing the truth to light*].

Jn 18: 37-38 (Vr.37) Pilate therefore said unto him, Art thou a king then? Jesus answered, Thou sayest that I am a king. To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth. Every one that is of the truth heareth my voice.

Jn 8:30-32,36 (Vr.31) Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; **Vr.32** And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free. **Vr.34** Jesus answered them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin.

2 Thess 2:7-12 (Vr.10) And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved.

Jn 1:1-18 (Vr.12) But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: **Vr.17** For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ. **Vr.29** The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.

Jn 14: 1 Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. **Vr.6** Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

Those that do not have the truth in them are deceived, being in iniquity and working unrighteousness without knowing it. Without being saved by the Word of truth and receive of the Spirit of truth in baptism, no one can truly come into the light of life that Christ brought for the salvation of the world. Without the truth you cannot have the life, nor come into the light that is by Christ Jesus, so knowledge and understanding of the truth is the key. Are you a truth seeker? Or are you complacent concerning searching and knowing the truth? **I Thess 2:13; Eph 4:17-25; Acts 17:10-12; 2 Tim 2:15-16; Jn 5:39-40**

Eph 1:12-14 (Vr.13 In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise,

Jam 1: 18 Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures. **Vr.21** Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls. **Vr.22** But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.

By deception, men are made blind, deaf and dumb concerning the spiritual things of God, but alive in the carnal things of this world. Christ came so that those that see not might see; those that hear not might hear, and that deceived hearts might perceive cum understand, be converted and be healed. He came to make carnally minded natural men to be spiritually minded as new creatures; for therein lieth life and peace. Deceit is dealt with by the knowledge of the truth. **Rom 8:5-9; Jn 12:37-41; Isa 6:1-10; Mtt 16:23; I Cor 2:12-16; 2 Cor 4:2-6; 2 Cor 5:16-18**

Jn 9:39-41 (Vr.39 And Jesus said, For judgment I am come into this world, that they which see not might see; and that they which see might be made blind.

Mtt 13:9-17 (Vr.13 Therefore speak I to them in parables: because they seeing see not; and hearing they hear not, neither do they understand. **Vr.14** And in them is fulfilled the prophecy of Esaias, which saith, By hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and shall not perceive: **Vr.15** For this people's heart is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed [*this the lot of the deceived*]; lest at any time they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and should understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them.

God the Father sent His Son, Jesus Christ to redeem and save the deceived souls of the world, by enlightening their darkness with the truth. Coming unto the revelation of the truth in Christ

that setteth free is by the mercy of God. It is not of him that willeth or of him that runneth, but it is of the LORD that revealeth in His mercy. **Isa 61:1-3; Hebr 10:32; Mtt 4:14-17; Jn 3:19-21; Jam 1:21; Rom 9:15-16; Lk 10:21-22; Mtt 16:15-17**

Ps 72:12-14 (Vr.13 He shall spare the poor and needy, and shall save the souls of the needy. **Vr.14** He shall redeem their soul from deceit and violence:

Isa 44:18-20 (Vr.20 He feedeth on ashes: a deceived heart hath turned him aside, that he cannot deliver his soul, nor say, Is there not a lie in my right hand?

Eph 1:17-19 (Vr.17 That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him: **Vr.18** The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints,

Jn 12:35-36,44-50 (Vr.46 I am come a light into the world, that whosoever believeth on me should not abide in darkness. **Vr.47** And if any man hear my words, and believe not, I judge him not: for I came not to judge the world, but to save the world.

Christ having given us the word of truth during his first advent on earth, thereafter baptizes all those that truly hear him and believe in him with the Spirit of truth that he sent after being glorified. This Spirit of truth gives us understanding of all that the Master had said, teaching us all things in the truth, in order that we might not be deceived any longer. **Jn 14:15-18,25-26; Jn 16:7-14; I Jn 2:24-27; Jn 7:37-39**

TAKE HEED THAT NO MAN DECEIVE YOU

The primary work of Satan, unclean spirits and fallen angels is to deceive men on earth. So it was that the serpent did against Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden from the beginning and tried it on Christ in the wilderness but failed.

The question is why deception in the first place? It is by getting a man deceived that such is gotten to walk in disobedience to the commandments of God. The deceived walk on in disobedience to God and in darkness. Deception keeps men in doubt and unbelief, living superstitiously. By being made carnally minded, a man is kept in deception all the days of his life in this world, and this is the lot of the fallen man.

Also, this is the lot of the CAO adherents who ought to be spiritually minded in Christ, but they are not. Their spirituality is a vain one which is actually carnality in disguise, but they know it not. The CAO instead by vain religious practices spiritualize carnal things unto being in error

always. Being overtly devil conscious and enemy minded, they see only evil at work in any unfavourable natural phenomenon or negative situations they encounter in life. They are devoid of the spiritual understanding of the teachings of Christ and of the workings of God in nature. Therefore they hold unto erroneous beliefs and practices that mislead. **Mtt 23:13-29; Lk 6:1-11; Mtt 12:1-8; Colo 2:20-23; Rom 1:18-23**

Mk 7:1-22 (Vr.2 And when they saw some of his disciples eat bread with defiled, that is to say, with unwashed, hands, they found fault. **Vr.7** Howbeit in vain do they worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men. **Vr.8** For laying aside the commandment of God, ye hold the tradition of men, as the washing of pots and cups: and many other such like things ye do. **Vr.9** And he said unto them, Full well ye reject the commandment of God, that ye may keep your own tradition.

Without having the knowledge and understanding of the truth in the mystery of God the Father, Christ and the kingdom, there is no way a man cannot be deceived. Lack of knowledge and understanding of the truth in order to do it leads to deception and the doing of error. It is the Father that reveals the Son and it is the Son that reveals the Father unto men. So it is by the mercy of God that this happens. **Lk 10:21-22; Rom 9:15-16**

Mtt 24: 4 And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you.

Mk 13: 5 And Jesus answering them began to say, Take heed lest any man deceive you: **Vr.6** For many shall come in my name [as the CAO MOPs have come], saying, I am [of] Christ; and shall deceive many [as is the case in today's version of Christianity]. **Vr.22** For false Christs and false prophets shall rise, and shall shew signs and wonders, to seduce, if it were possible, even the elect.

Jn 17:1-4 (Vr.3 And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent. **Vr.4** I have glorified thee on the earth: I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do [*to make the truth known to the world*].

How is deception accomplished in the CAO today? by erroneous doctrines, commandments of men, traditions and customs of the elders, deceptive prophetic declarations, etc. Many are deceived also by those of them that do great lying wonders, miracles, and unsubstantiated public show healings in crusades and programs. **Rev 13:11-17; Rev 16:13-14; 2 Thess 2:7,9-10; Mtt 24:24**

Mtt 16:6 Then Jesus said unto them, Take heed and beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees. **Vr.12** Then understood they how that he bade them not beware of the leaven of bread, but of the doctrine of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees [*their beliefs, customs and tradition of the elders, practices, and dogmas*].

Mk 8:15 And he charged them, saying, Take heed, beware of the leaven of the Pharisees, and of the leaven of Herod. **Vr.17** And when Jesus knew it, he saith unto them, Why reason ye, because ye have no bread? perceive ye not yet, neither understand? have ye your heart yet hardened? **Vr.18** Having eyes, see ye not? and having ears, hear ye not? and do ye not remember? **Vr.21** And he said unto them, How is it that ye do not understand [*this is the state of the deceived in deception*]?

Lk 8:18 Take heed therefore how ye hear: for whosoever hath, to him shall be given; and whosoever hath not, from him shall be taken even that which he seemeth to have.

All those so called Believers of the CAO that do not hear Christ in his doctrine shall remain in deception and be deceived even further without fail; no matter how knowledgeable they are in the Scriptures of old - the Law and the Prophets which they hold unto tenaciously. **Mtt 17:5; Jn 5:39-40,44-47**

Eph 5: 6 Let no man deceive you with vain words: for because of these things cometh the wrath of God upon the children of disobedience.

2 Thess 2: 3 Let no man deceive you by any means:

I Jn 3:7-10 (Vr.7) Little children, let no man deceive you:

All those that are seekers of the truth shall continually query all the varying doctrines, dogmas, practices, and visions of the CAO, as they study to show themselves approved unto God in Christ, and not unto men. Questions will arise in your heart the more you discover the truth in Christ, and your eyes of understanding shall open to the erroneous teachings of the CAO. **2 Tim 2:15; Jer 5:1**

Jn 4:20-24 (Vr.23) But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. **Vr.24** God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

Mtt 4: 4 But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.

For a man not to be deceived he must constantly maintain fellowship with the Father and the Son in spirit and in truth and walk therein, rather than walking after the flesh. The words of Christ must be found richly dwelling in you and by which you live accordingly. **I Jn 1:1-3; Gal 5:16-26; 2 Pet 1:2-10; Jn 6:63; Colo 3:16-17**

THE CAO ARE HYPOCRITES, SEDUCERS AND DECEIVERS

The Church as a business organization (CAO) does not represent the true Church of Jesus Christ or the true Body of Christ (BOC) on earth, rather it is the lust of their father the Devil that they are out to do and they do. Unfortunately, many are unaware of this being under their deception as it were. The Ministers of the people (MOPs) of the CAO are the custodians of the leaven of the Pharisees, of the Sadducees, and of the Herodians combined. They represent our present day chief priests, Pharisees, scribes and the likes. Their doctrines are of hypocrisy and iniquity - they say but they do not do. **Jn 8:41,44**

Lk 12:1 In the mean time, when there were gathered together an innumerable multitude of people, insomuch that they trode one upon another, he began to say unto his disciples first of all, Beware ye of the leaven of the Pharisees, which is hypocrisy.

Mtt 23:1-15 (Vr.3) All therefore whatsoever they bid you observe, that observe and do; but do not ye after their works: for they say, and do not.

Mtt 21:28-32 (Vr.28) But what think ye? A certain man had two sons; and he came to the first, and said, Son, go work to day in my vineyard. **Vr.29** He answered and said, I will not: but afterward he repented, and went. **Vr.30** And he came to the second, and said likewise. And he answered and said, I go, sir: and went not. **Vr.31** Whether of them twain did the will of his father? They say unto him, The first. Jesus saith unto them, Verily I say unto you, That the publicans and the harlots go into the kingdom of God before you.

Mk 7:1-13 (Vr.6) He answered and said unto them, Well hath Esaias prophesied of you hypocrites, as it is written, This people honoureth me with their lips, but their heart is far from me.

The early apostolic church in its expansion drive was infiltrated by a lot of certain of the sect of the Pharisees and also company of priests, who were said to have believed – a mixed multitude was thus established. Through some of these converts, doctrines contrary to that of Christ were introduced and blended; of which the Master had warned in his time, and Paul with some other of the apostles cried out about in their time to no avail. It has grown into the hydra-headed monster that we have as the CAO system of today. The CAO is the greatest deception of our time, an internally disguised gate of hell that is against the true Church of Christ unknowing to many – the Tare that was sown amongst the Wheat. **Acts 20:28-32; Mtt 16:6-12,18; Acts 8:9-14**

Acts 6:1-7 (Vr.1) And in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplied, there arose a murmuring of the Grecians against the Hebrews, because their widows were neglected in the daily ministration. **Vr.7** And the word of God increased; and the number of the disciples multiplied in Jerusalem greatly; and a great company of the priests were obedient to the faith.

Acts 15:1-29 (Vr.1 And certain men which came down from Judaea taught the brethren, and said, Except ye be circumcised after the manner of Moses, ye cannot be saved. **Vr.2** When therefore Paul and Barnabas had no small dissension and disputation with them, they determined that Paul and Barnabas, and certain other of them, should go up to Jerusalem unto the apostles and elders about this question. **Vr.5** But there rose up certain of the sect of the Pharisees which believed, saying, That it was needful to circumcise them, and to command them to keep the law of Moses. **Vr.24** Forasmuch as we have heard, that certain which went out from us have troubled you with words, subverting your souls, saying, Ye must be circumcised, and keep the law: to whom we gave no such commandment:

Rev 2:18-25 (Vr.20 Notwithstanding I have a few things against thee, because thou sufferest that woman Jezebel, which calleth herself a prophetess, to teach and to seduce my servants to commit fornication, and to eat things sacrificed unto idols.

Gal 2:4-5 (Vr.4 And that because of false brethren unawares brought in, who came in privily to spy out our liberty which we have in Christ Jesus, that they might bring us into bondage:

Jude 1:3-4 (Vr.4 For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ.

Mtt 13:24-30 (Vr.24 Another parable put he forth unto them, saying, The kingdom of heaven is likened unto a man which sowed good seed in his field: **Vr.25** But while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares [*the CAO*] among the wheat [*the BOC*], and went his way.

The CAO are operating an antichrist ministry by which they do hidden things of dishonesty, walking in craftiness and vain religion, handling the word of God deceitfully for their belly sake. They preach the another Jesus in their another gospel to those that are lost by which they are kept blind and deaf to the true gospel. They do not hear Christ in his doctrines, but rather teach the commandments of men instead. They say that they come in the name of Christ, but preach contrary to Christ. The CAO believe that they are doing the work of God by their vain religious practices but in truth they are not. **I Thess 2:1-6; 2 Cor 11:3-4; Mtt 24:4-5; Mtt 23:13-28; Mtt 15:7-9; Rom 16:17-18; I Tim 6:3-5; Jam 1:26**

Jn 16:1-3 (Vr.2 They shall put you out of the synagogues: yea, the time cometh, that whosoever killeth you will think that he doeth God service. **Vr.3** And these things will they do unto you, because they have not known the Father, nor me.

2 Cor 2:17 For we are not as many, which corrupt the word of God: but as of sincerity, but as of God, in the sight of God speak we in Christ.

I Tim 4:1-7 (Vr.1 Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; **Vr.2** Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron;

2 Cor 4:1-5 (Vr.2 But have renounced the hidden things of dishonesty, not walking in craftiness, nor handling the word of God deceitfully; but by manifestation of the truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God. **Vr.4** In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ,

Tit 1:10-14 (Vr.10 For there are many unruly and vain talkers and deceivers, specially they of the circumcision: **Vr.11** Whose mouths must be stopped, who subvert whole houses, teaching things which they ought not, for filthy lucre's sake. **Vr.14** Not giving heed to Jewish fables, and commandments of men, that turn from the truth.

2 Pet 2:1 But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction. **Vr.2** And many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of. **Vr.3** And through covetousness shall they with feigned words make merchandise of you: whose judgment now of a long time lingereth not, and their damnation slumbereth not.

The CAO through their dogmas have turned the true meaning of love, faith, hope, grace, salvation, first resurrection, the kingdom, marriage, spirituality, etc found in the sound doctrine of Christ into a lie found as the doctrines of men. These they do through vain philosophy, motivational preaching in deceit, covetous prosperity sermons, doctrines based on presumptions cum the wisdom of men, rather than on definitive unambiguous Scriptures, and the likes. **Eph 2:8; Colo 2:4-8; I Tim 6:3-11; Acts 13:8-10; Hebr 6:1-3**

2 Cor 11:13 For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. **Vr.14** And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. **Vr.15** Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works.

The CAO teach the ways of God in a lie, twisting the truth to suit their pecuniary and self-willed ways. They are hypocritical, having respect of persons (men) where the faith of our Lord Jesus is concerned. The CAO adherents walk by emotions, sight and feelings rather than by faith today in their religious fervor. They walk by the wisdom, deductions and inferences of religious leaders, rather than by the concise commandments of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ. **Rom 4:17; Mtt 22:15-18; Rom 1:17-22; 2 Tim 3:13; I Jn 2:26; Jam 2:1-9; 2 Cor 5:7**

And their adherents love to have it so not knowing any better, having itchy ears, thereby living in error, lies and self-deceit/denial as it were. They make themselves out to be what they are not yet in this present evil world, being made to ignorantly turn hope into faith. They walk in all deceivableness of unrighteousness, rejecting the love of the truth. Therefore, they are held in a strong delusion, believing a lie as ordained by God. They are deceived and they know not, but go about deceiving others in their ignorance, believing falsely that they are of the truth. To the deceived the “truth” he knows is the “lies” that he has been made to believe and practice. **2 Thess 2:7-12; Jn 9:39-41; Jn 12:37-43; 2 Tim 4:3-4,10; Gal 6:3; Gal 4:16; Rom 12:3; Ezek 13:17-23; Hosea 12:7-8; Rom 2:17-23; Jn 16:1-3**

The assurance we have in Christ concerning the true Church of Christ is that the Lord knoweth those that are his, whom he hath sealed with the Spirit of truth and revealed the word of truth in them. Those that are deceived even when they hear the truth, reject it and try to justify the deceit that they are in, unlike they that are of the truth. It is at the end that the separation between the two shall take place – the wheat from the tares, the sheep from the goats, the lambs from the wolves, etc., but before then, by their fruits we shall know them. **Gal 6:7-8; 2 Tim 2:19; Mtt 7:16-27; Mtt 25:31-46; Eph 1:12-14**

CONCLUSION

The work of Satan primarily is to deceive in order to make servants, slaves and disciples for his master Sin, unto receiving death as wages at the end. From the unseen regions of the earth, Satan influences and manipulates men to work deception, wickedness and evil in this terrestrial world. **Rom 6:23; Rev 12:9**

Satan’s power lies or is rooted in his ability to make and sustain a lie by which he deceives men unto their being ignorant and in the dark. Unfortunately, many people do not know this as where the power of Satan lies majorly, and as such have been deceived to believe other superficial things as the root of his power. By his grace we have been able to expose this secret herein, and revealed how to deal with it.

The intent of a lie is to deceive and bring you into darkness, while the intent of the truth is to enlighten and bring you into the light so that you should no longer walk in the darkness but in the light. **Acts 26:14-23; Colo 1:12-13**

Naturally, men’s hearts are hardened by deceit, being carnal, sold under sin from the beginning. Therefore, having a heart of unbelief that is evil and full of errors, men yield their members as servants of sin doing unrighteousness. **Gen 6:5; Rom 6:16-17; Rom 8:20**

Jer 17: 9 The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?

Rom 7:14 For we know that the law is spiritual: but I am carnal, sold under sin. **Vr.17** Now then it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me. **Vr.18** For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not.

Deception is found where ignorance holds sway, and people love a lie and walk in fleshly lusts/pleasures, being lovers of themselves more than lovers of God. All those that are of the world, being children of the world are under the deception of Satan and unfortunately, those of the CAO too, who are earthly minded. **2 Tim 3:2-4; Eph 2:2-3**

Many Believers walk and live in disobedience to the words of Christ yet they stand in the place of prayer demanding things of God and commanding heaven for blessings because of what the CAO MOPs erroneously teach and deceive them to believe. The reward/blessings of obedience cometh to those that walk in obedience, anything contrary to this is a lie and a deception that leadeth to destruction. A man shall reap what he soweth, whether in this world or in the world to come. Therefore deceive not yourself that it shall not be so in your own case. Ye walk in self will and do wickedly yet ye appear before the LORD desiring for the reward of righteousness in Christ. **Jer 9:1-9; Jer 7:1-15; Gal 6:7-8**

Many believers today deceive themselves not having the truth in them, but abideth in a lie. They are hypocrites, cunning, sly and crafty in handling the word of truth and in their deeds as MOPs. They are self-serving, doing eye service, fearing the people and seeking to please the multitude as religious leaders and feign spiritual fathers. Their adherents also are men pleasers as well as self pleasers. Those that are willingly ignorant are deceived and falsely believe that it does not matter, that it is still well. They defend their ignorance and their religious leaders that continually deceive them in their doctrines. **2 Pet 3:5; Rom 1:28-32; Deu 13:1-5**

Deception keeps a man carnally minded cum earthly minded and therein lieth captivity. But it is by the truth that Christ sets us free from such bondage into the liberty of the kingdom of God and his righteousness. Deception puts and keeps a man in the world of evil, lusts, pride and darkness. Such are always struggling and seeking to reform the worldly system by the CAO system in order to somehow have a new world as it were.

In this carnal world of deception, the children of the world do not think nor believe that the world would pass away, while the CAO adherents do not want the world to pass away, but rather pray and hope for it to get better one day through reformation. They believe that they are ruling and dominating in the world by reason of acquiring riches and fame in this world. But unfortunately, the world continue to wax old and is ready to face destruction; yet the CAO cling

unto a false hope of making this world as heaven on earth – this is a great delusion that they suffer and are in. **Hebr 1:10-12; Mtt 24:35; 2 Pet 3:1-12**

I Jn 2:15-17 (Vr.15 Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. **Vr.16** For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. **Vr.17** And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.

Those that do not have and believe the truth are in a lie and deceived even as the whole world is. Such are blind, deaf and dumb, being under the captivity of the Devil. Those that resist and oppose the truth believe in a lie instead. It is only in Christ that the truth can be found and in no other. Those that believe not in the Lord Jesus are deceived. **Jn 18:37-38; Jn 14:6; Rom 8:9**

2 Cor 4:2-4 (Vr.3 But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost: **Vr.4** In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

Eph 6:11 Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. **Vr.12** For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

Those that walk after the Spirit and who are no longer of this world, but are of the kingdom of God, who mind heavenly things being spiritually minded have escaped the pollution/deception that is in the world. Such are sons of God being led by the Spirit of Christ. And such that have the Spirit of truth in them would always reprove evil by the truth even in wisdom. **Jn 17:14; Jn 16:8; Eph 5:11; Jn 3:19-21; Rom 8:14; Colo 3:1-3**

Our work as saints, Christians and true disciples of Christ is that, holding unto the Spirit and word of truth we should take heed that no man, Satan or his cohorts deceive us. Rather we should know and understand the truth which we are to preach and direct men unto salvation that is by our Master Jesus Christ, through the preaching of the cross of Christ, the true gospel. We are called and chosen to be faithful witnesses of the truth in the world.

Prov 14: 25 A true witness delivereth souls: but a deceitful witness speaketh lies.

The truth came to expose the lie; the light came to expose darkness so that men can be set free from the bonds thereof, in order to walk in the light of God in Christ Jesus unto eternal life. We are meant to be true and faithful witnesses of the resurrected Christ in this world of sin and

death. May you endure in the truth till the end in order to be saved in Jesus name. Take heed that no man deceive you.

FEEDBACK

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